

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR DON KNABE

March 3, 2009

Arts education is an essential and integral part of basic education for all K-12 students in Los Angeles County. A solid infrastructure for arts education in local school districts is critical to ensuring that all students have access to quality dance, music, theatre, and visual arts instruction. A solid infrastructure also enhances students' creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving abilities. By adopting an arts education policy, adopting a long-range plan, hiring an arts coordinator and arts teachers, and allocating general fund dollars for arts education, school districts demonstrate a long-term commitment to provide their students with skills needed in all careers and areas of life and ensure the future economic vitality of Los Angeles County.

**- M O R E -**

MOTION

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

RIDLEY-THOMAS \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

The County's just released 2008 Arts Education Performance Indicators (AEPI) Report shows us that 34 area school districts – representing nearly half a million students – are building a strong infrastructure for arts education in partnership with *Arts for All: LA County Regional Blueprint for Arts Education* and that there is a clear overall trend towards building an arts education infrastructure in all school districts across the County. (To download a copy of the 2008 AEPI report, visit [www.lacountyarts.org](http://www.lacountyarts.org) and click on “2008 AEPI Report” under Arts Education on the homepage.)

An arts education **infrastructure** is the necessary foundation for the establishment of high quality arts programs. With Los Angeles County's ever-expanding diversity, a comprehensive arts education provides students with an essential bridge across language and cultural differences and builds linkages both within and between communities.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD** proclaim the month of March as Arts Education Month throughout Los Angeles County.

# # #

GT:eg

Contact: Ayanna Hudson Higgins  
Director of Arts Education  
Los Angeles County Arts Commission  
1055 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 800  
Los Angeles, California 90017  
(213) 202-3983